

LIMITED PURPOSE LANDFILLS



UPDATING THE “350” RULE

Solid Waste Handling Standards, Chapter 173-350 of the Washington Administrative Code, is a regulation addressing waste management issues as diverse as used tires, surface impoundments, and incineration.

These rules govern how individuals, businesses and governments can manage solid waste, what materials can be recycled, when permits are required, and many other technical details.

Updating the rule allows Ecology to address emerging issues, look for ways to improve its effectiveness and get feedback from stakeholders.



Section 400 — Limited purpose landfills

Section 400 establishes standards, criteria, and requirements for landfills receiving a wide range of solid wastes. Only dangerous wastes, municipal solid wastes, and inert wastes being disposed in inert waste landfills are excluded.

Ecology has several key objectives in updating this section:

Highlighting flexibility

Ecology is proposing to reorganize the design standards in the rule to clarify that there are several options available to limited purpose landfill operators for liner and final cover designs, on the condition that the operator can demonstrate that a proposed design meets the relevant performance standards.

Improving access to information

Ecology is proposing to expand the rule’s description of what data needs to be collected at limited purpose landfills, and how it should be reported. The proposed language largely reflects current practices by most limited purpose landfill operators, but will establish a consistent basis for producing data to guide the management of facilities throughout the state.

Consistency and clarity

Ecology is also proposing several changes in Section 400 that mirror approaches adopted in 2012 for the Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills, WAC 173-351. These include:

- Redefining the endpoints for post-closure to focus on functional stability of the landfill. The existing rule’s use of an arbitrary timeframe for financial assurance planning and of subjective stability criteria to define the end of post-closure for a landfill is proposed to be eliminated.

Contacts

You can find documents, schedules and other information on our website:
www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/rules/wac173350/1308ov.html

To be kept up to date on developments in the 350 rulemaking, please subscribe to our ListServ at the link above.

For questions on section 400, "Limited Purpose Landfills," contact Bill Harris, environmental engineer with Waste 2 Resources:

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Special accommodations

To request ADA accommodation for disabilities, or printed materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 360-407-6900 or visit <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/accessibility.html>. Persons with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. Persons with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.

- Establishing a requirement for an environmental covenant under the Uniform Environmental Covenants Act, RCW 64.70, to provide additional elements of protection for human health and the environment after post-closure ends.

Other additions and clarifications

- Clarifying requirements for operators to document how facilities are designed and constructed.
- Clarifying requirements for plans of operations at limited purpose landfills.
- Clarifying how new facilities must be located in relation to existing water wells, and how nearby property owners must be notified of possible impacts on future well placements.

Hybrid waste landfills

Questions about permitting landfills that accept a combination of impacted soils and inert wastes have been addressed in a new category, Section 405, "Hybrid Waste Landfills."

Public input

After releasing a draft version of the revised 350 rule, Ecology will hold informal workshops to educate interested persons about the proposed changes. Feedback during this informal process may result in changes to the draft rule.

In September 2016, Ecology plans to formally announce proposed revisions. This will begin a formal comment period, including hearings where stakeholders can comment on the changes and ask questions that will be answered in the official rulemaking documents. Ecology hopes to adopt changes to the rule in the spring of 2017.

350 rule update schedule (dates subject to change)

Now	Draft rule available
July 21	Informal workshop—Lacey
July 26	Informal workshop—Ellensburg
July 27	Informal workshop—Spokane
Sept. 6	Informal comments due
December	Proposed rule filed
January-	
March, 2017	Public hearings on proposed rule
Spring, 2017	Rule adopted